



Prescribed Fire



Heavy fuel loading along park boundary.



Prescribed fire creates vegetation diversity.

The lack of fire in Zion (due mainly to past suppression and other land use practices) has contributed to high fuel loadings, changes in vegetation structure, and reduction in extent of grasslands. Prescribed fire is a management treatment that can be utilized to reverse these changes.

The goal of the prescribed fire program in Zion is to use management-ignited fire, where appropriate, for the restoration of fire-dependent ecosystems and species-specific resource management goals. Prescribed fire projects are to be conducted in a manner consistent with land and resource management plans, public health considerations, and approved prescribed fire plans. The policy of using fire as a tool will help decrease risks to life, property, and resources; prescribed fires will help perpetuate the natural resource values for which Zion National Park was established.

For more information on Fire Management in Zion: 435-772-3256.



Visitors and local residents may be temporarily impacted by smoke from prescribed fires in Zion. Smoke on roadways may be a hazard and scenic visibility may be reduced. Actions are taken to reduce these smoke impacts, such as the timing of the burn and burning only under favorable weather and fuel conditions. While park officials understand these temporary impacts, the long-term benefits of restoring the health of the ecosystem and reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfires is vital to maintaining the integrity of Zion National Park.